operate as per the existing system under the legislation governing these funds. Once the full architecture of the NPS is in place, the NPS will be available, on a voluntary basis, to all persons, including self-employed professionals and others in the unorganized sector.

**Setting up of Sixth Pay Commission**

2301. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up Sixth Pay Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the time when the Commission is likely to be set up, the composition of the Commission and the terms of reference of the Commission;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Central Government employees are to be offered with VRS after completing fifteen years of service; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Government is initiating steps to set up Sixth Pay Commission. The Composition of the Commission and its Terms of Reference have not been finalized.

(c) and (d) No such proposal is presently under consideration of Ministry of Finance.

**Revival of Land Development Banks**

2302. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to revive the Land Development Banks (Bhu Vikas Bank) within three months to help provide loans to the farmers for capital investment;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have decided to increase the provision for agricultural loans from Rs. 80,000 crore to Rs. 1.60 lakh crore; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) For the purpose of the revival of Long-Term Co-operative Credit Institutions and recommending an

implementable action plan, the Government has set up a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Prof. A. Vaidyanathan.

(b) and (c) The Government announced on 18th June, 2004 a package for doubling the flow of credit to agriculture and allied activities in a period of three years commencing from 2004-05 over the amount disbursed during the year 2003-04. The target and achievement of agricultural credit flow during 2004-05 and 2005-06 (April-December) is furnished below:-

*(Rs. Crore)*

| Year | Target | Achievement |
|---|---|---|
| 2004-05 | 105,000 | 125,309 |
| 2005-06 | 141,000 | 119,115 (April-December 2005) |

The target for the credit flow to agriculture and allied sector has been fixed at Rs. 175,000 crore during 2006-07.

**Registration of Banking Codes and Standards Board of India**

2303. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has taken measures to register the Banking Codes and Standards Board of India (BCSBI) as an independent society, which will draw membership from banks and conduct field visits of banks; and

(b) if so, the details as to how the BSCBI propose to function and the positive effects it will have on customer service in banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Banking Codes and Standards of India (BCSBI) has been registered as a Society on 20th February, 2006. The banks and Indian Banks 'Association, together would draw up the voluntary codes in general terms with respect to each bank. The codes will be followed by detailed rules, in respect of each of the codes. The banks will then register themselves as members with the Board under formal covenant, which would serve as a registration document. The Relationship Manager of the Board would provide feedback for the assessment of adherence by banks to the codes and standards through specific formats. In cases where there are serious concents, the Board